

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

LISTING OF CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the Application.

1. **(Currently Amended)** A method for enabling a user to refine a search query using a graphical user interface, the method comprising the steps of:
 - presenting a graphical user interface to a user;
 - enabling a user to selectively input search parameters into a first search query using the graphical user interface, wherein the step of presenting further comprises the steps of:
 - receiving the first search query;
 - searching at least one database for objects that satisfy the first search query;
 - determining whether at least one object stored in the database satisfies the first search query;
 - retrieving a first search result comprising the at least one object if a determination is made that the at least one object satisfies the first search query;
 - determining a type of information included in the at least one object associated with the first search result;
 - determining at least one search refinement option based on the type of information determined; and
 - searching the first search result for objects that satisfy a second search query, the second search query comprising the at least one search refinement option.
2. **(Original)** The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:
 - presenting the at least one search refinement option to the user.
3. **(Original)** The method of claim 2, wherein the at least one search refinement option is presented in a drop-down menu.

4. **(Original)** The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of:
enabling the user to select the at least one search refinement option.
5. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 4, further comprising the step of:
enabling the user to input a the second search query comprising the at least one search refinement option.
6. **(Cancelled)**
7. **(Currently Amended)** A system for enabling a user to refine a search query using a graphical user interface, the system comprising:
presenting means for presenting a graphical user interface to a user;
search parameter inputting means for enabling a user to selectively input search parameters into a first search query using the graphical user interface;
receiving means for receiving the first search query;
searching means for searching at least one database for objects that satisfy the first search query;
first search query determining means for determining whether at least one object stored in the database satisfies the first search query;
retrieving means for retrieving a first search result comprising the at least one object if a determination is made that the at least one object satisfies the first search query;
information type determining means for determining a type of information included in the at least one object associated with the first search result;
search refinement option determining means for determining at least one search refinement option based on the type of information determined; and
second search query inputting means for enabling the user to input a second search query comprising the at least one search refinement option, that searches the first search result for objects that satisfy the second search query.

8. **(Original)** The system of claim 7, further comprising search refinement option presenting means for presenting the at least one search refinement option to the user.

9. **(Original)** The system of claim 8, wherein the at least one search refinement option is presented in a drop-down menu.

10. **(Original)** The system of claim 8, further comprising search refinement option selecting means for enabling the user to select the at least one search refinement option.

11. **(Cancelled)**

12. **(Cancelled)**

13. **(Currently Amended)** A system for enabling a user to refine a search query using a graphical user interface, the system comprising:

- a presenting module that presents a graphical user interface to a user;
- a search parameter inputting module that enables a user to selectively input search parameters into a first search query using the graphical user interface;
- a receiving module that receives the first search query;
- a searching module that searches at least one database for objects that satisfy the first search query;
- a first search query determining module that determines whether at least one object stored in the database satisfies the first search query;
- a retrieving module that retrieves a first search result comprising the at least one object if a determination is made that the at least one object satisfies the first search query;
- an information type determining module that determines a type of information included in the at least one object associated with the first search result;

a search refinement option determining module that determines at least one search refinement option based on the type of information determined; and

a second search query inputting module that enables the user to input a second search query comprising the at least one search refinement option, that searches the first search result for objects that satisfy the second search query.

14. **(Original)** The system of claim 13, further comprising a search refinement option presenting module that presents the at least one search refinement option to the user.

15. **(Original)** The system of claim 14, wherein the at least one search refinement option is presented in a drop-down menu.

16. **(Original)** The system of claim 14, further comprising a search refinement option selecting module that enables the user to select the at least one search refinement option.

17. **(Cancelled)**

18. **(Cancelled)**

19. **(Currently Amended)** A processor readable medium comprising processor readable code embodied therein for causing a processor to enable a user to refine a first search query using a graphical user interface, the medium comprising:

presenting code that causes a processor to present a graphical user interface to a user;

search parameter inputting code that causes a processor to enable a user to selectively input search parameters into a first search query using the graphical user interface;

receiving code that causes a processor to receive the first search query;

searching code that causes a processor to search at least one database for objects that satisfy the first search query;

first search query determining code that causes a processor to determine whether at least one object stored in the database satisfies the first search query;

retrieving code that causes a processor to retrieve a first search result comprising the at least one object if a determination is made that the at least one object satisfies the first search query;

information type determining code that causes a processor to determine a type of information included in the at least one object associated with the first search result;

search refinement option determining code that causes a processor to determine at least one search refinement option based on the type of information determined; and

second search query inputting code that causes a processor to enable the user to input a second search query comprising the search refinement option, that searches the first search result for objects that satisfy the second search query.

20. **(Original)** The medium of claim 19, further comprising a search refinement option presenting code that causes a processor to present the at least one search refinement option to the user.

21. **(Original)** The medium of claim 20, wherein the at least one search refinement option is presented in a drop-down menu.

22. **(Original)** The medium of claim 20, further comprising search refinement option selecting code that causes a processor to enable the user to select the at least one search refinement option.

23. **(Cancelled)**

24. **(Cancelled)**